

REMARKS

The present invention is an electronic bulletin board system, a wireless family bulletin board, a method of accessing a family bulletin board, a system for providing notice board service and communication services in a computer network and a system for providing a group of portable wireless user terminals with a notice board service and a communication connection to the network including information management services and user services in the network . An embodiment of an electronic bulletin board system in accordance with the invention includes a plurality of wireless devices 20, 20a,-20c; an access point 22 and 42 in wireless communication with said wireless devices and a server 28 connected to said access point. The wireless devices are connected to the server through the access point in order to obtain the bulletin board data therefrom. Each of the plurality of the wireless devices has equal access to the bulletin board data. The wireless devices form a family or group with each family or group including a unique identification (ID) reserved and used to recognize wireless devices belonging to the group. See page 6, lines 15-22 through page 7, lines 1-16 of the Specification for a discussion of operation of a terminal after it has been authenticated including each terminal having a unique ID which is used by members of the group with each unique identification of the terminals being recognized in the server used by the wireless devices of the group.

The wireless devices or terminals include an identifier and a browser including configurable controlling functions with the identifier being used to indicate that the wireless devices or terminals belong to a family or group of wireless devices or wireless terminals validated by an enabling service and a configuration tool in the server for managing at least some of the configurable controlling functions of the

browser of the wireless devices or wireless terminals, wherein IDs are reserved and used as by wireless devices or wireless terminals or belonging to the group or family of wireless devices or wireless terminals and the group or family of the wireless devices or wireless terminals is recognized in the server. This subject matter has been recited in claim 21.

Claims 1-3, 5, 11, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 25-27, 32 and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by United States Patent 6,496,849 (Hanson) and further claims 4, 6-10, 12-15, 23, 28, 29, 31 and 34 stand rejected on grounds of obviousness over Hanson in view of additional prior art. These grounds of rejection are traversed for the following reasons.

Each of independent claims 1, 11, 21 and 22 recite "an electronic bulletin board including a server with the wireless devices being connected to the server and further, the wireless devices or wireless terminals include an identifier and browser including configurable controlling functions with the identifier being used to indicate that the wireless devices or wireless terminals belong to a family or group of wireless devices or wireless terminals validated by a enabling service and a configuration tool in the server for managing at least some of the configurable controlling functions of the browser of the wireless devices or wireless terminals wherein IDs are reserved and used by wireless devices or wireless terminals belonging to the family or group of wireless devices or wireless terminals and the group or family of the wireless devices or wireless terminals is recognized in the server. This subject matter corresponds to the subject matter originally recited in claim 21 which is unamended herein and further has been added to each of the independent claims 1, 11, 16, and 22.

The Examiner rejected claim 21 including the aforementioned recitation of the wireless devices including an identifier and a browser including configurable controlling functions and a configuration tool in the server predicated on the following analysis:

- Wireless terminals with an identifier, a gateway, an access point, and a server:

"[In Fig. 1] the network 5 may be any local or global computer network. For example, the network S may be the Internet ... a wireless communications network" (Hanson, col. 5, lines 64-65),

A wireless device that connects to an access point which is in turn connected to an Internet provider, inherently implies a gateway through which a server is accessed; a means to identify the terminal is inherent in a network system (Hanson, Fig. 1)

- A configuration tool in the server for managing at least some of configurable controlling functions of a browser from the terminal:

"The electronic medium may be configured using a MIME construct. The electronic medium may include a command identifying the dynamic or the static content. The electronic medium may be configured to display a plain text message corresponding to the dynamic content, when one of the content-types cannot support the dynamic content." (Hanson, col. 2, lines 54-59), a configurable electronic medium inherently implies a means to configure said medium

- IDs are reserved and used by terminals belonging to the same group, each group of a unique identification of the terminals is recognized in the same server to be used by the terminals of the group:

Unique identification for participants is implied in a system in which a server manages session information for said participants: Hanson, col. 6, line 65 — col. 7, line 2 (see full quote above)

It is submitted that the Examiner's construction of Hanson as anticipating the aforementioned subject matter is erroneous.

In the first place, the identifier is recited as being used to indicate the wireless terminals belong to a group or family of wireless devices or wireless terminals validated by an enabling service. It is noted that the Examiner has stated that there is an inherent implication that means to identify the terminal is inherent in the

network system. However, the recited identification is specific and as the Examiner is aware, the burden of proof on inherency is that it must be present. The Examiner cannot point to anything in Hanson which suggests the aforementioned identifier including its function.

The Examiner's assertion involving the configuration tool is submitted to be erroneous. The configuration tool is recited as managing some of the configurable controlling functions of the browser of the terminals wherein IDs are reserved and used by terminals belonging to the family or group of wireless devices or wireless terminals and the family or group of the wireless devices or wireless terminals is recognized on the server. It is submitted that a MIME construct does not suggest this subject matter to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Moreover, the Examiner refers to column 2, lines 54-59, as suggesting inherent implication to configure the medium. However, it is submitted that that reference to a configurable electronic medium does not inherently suggest the configuration tool in the server with its recited function.

The Examiner refers to IDs being reserved and used by terminals belonging to the same group. However, the Examiner has not referred to any portion of Hanson wherein the identifier is disclosed. It is submitted that column 6, lines 65 through column 7, line 2, merely refers to the use of the webserver being included in the server 6 to connect the participants to web application server 14 and that the web server 16 is configured to manage a request from browsers at the participants to manage session management to send and receive forms or zaplets transmitted to or from the participants 1-4 and to server HTML data and static images to the participants. It is submitted that this subject matter does not suggest the aforementioned identifier.

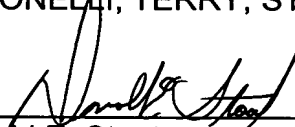
The amendment of the independent claims to insert the subject matter of claim 21 does not raise new issues since the Examiner rejected each of the independent claims, including claim 21, on grounds of anticipation. The amendment of the other independent claims to recite a function which the Examiner stated was anticipated does not raise new issues.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that each of the claims in the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (attorney docket no. 0171.38962X00).

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



Donald E. Stout
Reg. No. 26,422
(703) 312-6600

DES:dlh